In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of automatically controlling fraud in an electronic transaction system, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

when a user initiates a session in the electronic transaction system, generating an element and storing the element in a database in association with information identifying the user;

each time during the session the user commands the execution of an operation, determining an equation that is satisfied by the element stored in the database;

when a sufficient given number of operations has been effected, solving the system of equations consisting of the equations determined as above to deduce the element therefrom; and

by consulting the database, deducing from the element obtained in this way the corresponding information identifying the user.

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the equations of the system of equations are independent.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~or claim 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the equations are linear equations.

4. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ wherein the element ~~consists~~ is comprised of a series of numerical coefficients.

5. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the series of coefficients defines an equation of a hyperplane [[(H)]] having (n-1) dimensions in a space [[(E)]] having n dimensions and, each time the user commands the execution of an operation, the step of determining an equation consists in determining the coordinates

$$(X_i^1, X_i^2, ... X_i^n)$$

of a point [[(P_i)]] in the hyperplane [[(H)]].

6. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the series of coefficients defines an equation of a line [[(D)]] in a space [[(E)]] having two dimensions and, each time the user commands the execution of an operation, the step of determining an equation consists in determining the coordinates (X_i, Y_i) belonging to that line [[(D)]].

7. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the series of coefficients defines the coordinates (X_1, X_2, ... X_n) of a point [[(P)]] in a space [[(E)]] having n dimensions and, each time the user commands the execution of an operation, the step of determining an equation consists in determining the equation of a hyperplane [[(H_i)]] containing the point [[(P)]].

8. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the series of coefficients defines the coordinates (X_1, X_2) of a point [[(P)]] in a space [[(E)]] having two dimensions and, each time the user commands the execution of an operation, the step of determining an equation consists in determining the equation of line (D_i) passing through the point [[(P)]].

9. (Currently amended) A system for automatically controlling fraud in an electronic transaction system, ~~characterized in that it comprises~~ comprising:

first calculation means (108) for generating an element when a user (300) initiates a session in the electronic transaction system (200); [[,]]

a database (104) in which the element is stored in association with information identifying the user, the first calculation means (108) being adapted to determine an equation that the element stored in the database (104) satisfies each time the user (300) commands the execution of an operation in the session; [[,]] and

second calculation means (110) adapted to solve the system of equations consisting of the equations determined as above to deduce the element therefrom when a sufficient given

number (n) of operations has been effected, so that, by consulting the database (104), it is possible to deduce from the element obtained in this way the corresponding information identifying the user (300).

10. (New) A computer program comprising program-code instructions for executing steps of the method according to claim 1 when said program is executed on a computer.